



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Todd Beal*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- Isolated severe storms/flash flooding possible for E LA.
- Elevated fire weather conditions across W TX , NW TX, and SE NM.

## Thursday

- Heavy rain/flash flooding possible for SE AR, & N & Central LA.
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across E NM, W TX and western TX Panhandle.
- Snow begins to impact N and W NM.

## Friday

- Snow with possible travel impacts across N & W NM.
- Elevated fire weather conditions across W TX
- Strong to severe storms possible over N & E TX, SE OK, N LA, and AR.
- Heavy rainfall threat with flooding possible continues over SE AR and NE LA

## Saturday

- Severe thunderstorms possible across AR, SE OK, NE TX, & Northern/Central LA.
- Heavy rain/flash flooding possible across portions of AR.
- Elevated to critical fire weather conditions across W TX, the TX Big Bend, and Rio Grande Plains.

## Sunday

- No significant weather impacts expected.

## River Flooding

- Moderate flooding continues along the MS River in AR. Osceola (NE AR) expected to reach major flood today.
- Cache and White Rivers in NE AR at moderate flood stage.
  - Cache River at Patterson is expected to slightly rise again and reach major flood stage by late week, with some state highways flooding.

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Feb 20, 2019 – Feb 24, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms	E LA		SE OK, N & E TX N LA, AR	SE OK, NE TX, N LA, AR	
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	E LA	SE AR, North & Central LA	SE AR, NE LA	AR	
Winter Weather		N & W NM	N & W NM		
Fire Weather	W TX, NW TX, SE NM	E NM, W TX, W TX Panhandle	W TX	TX Big Bend, W TX, Rio Grande Plains	
River Flooding	NE AR	NE AR, N LA	NE AR, N LA	NE AR, N LA	NE AR, N LA

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

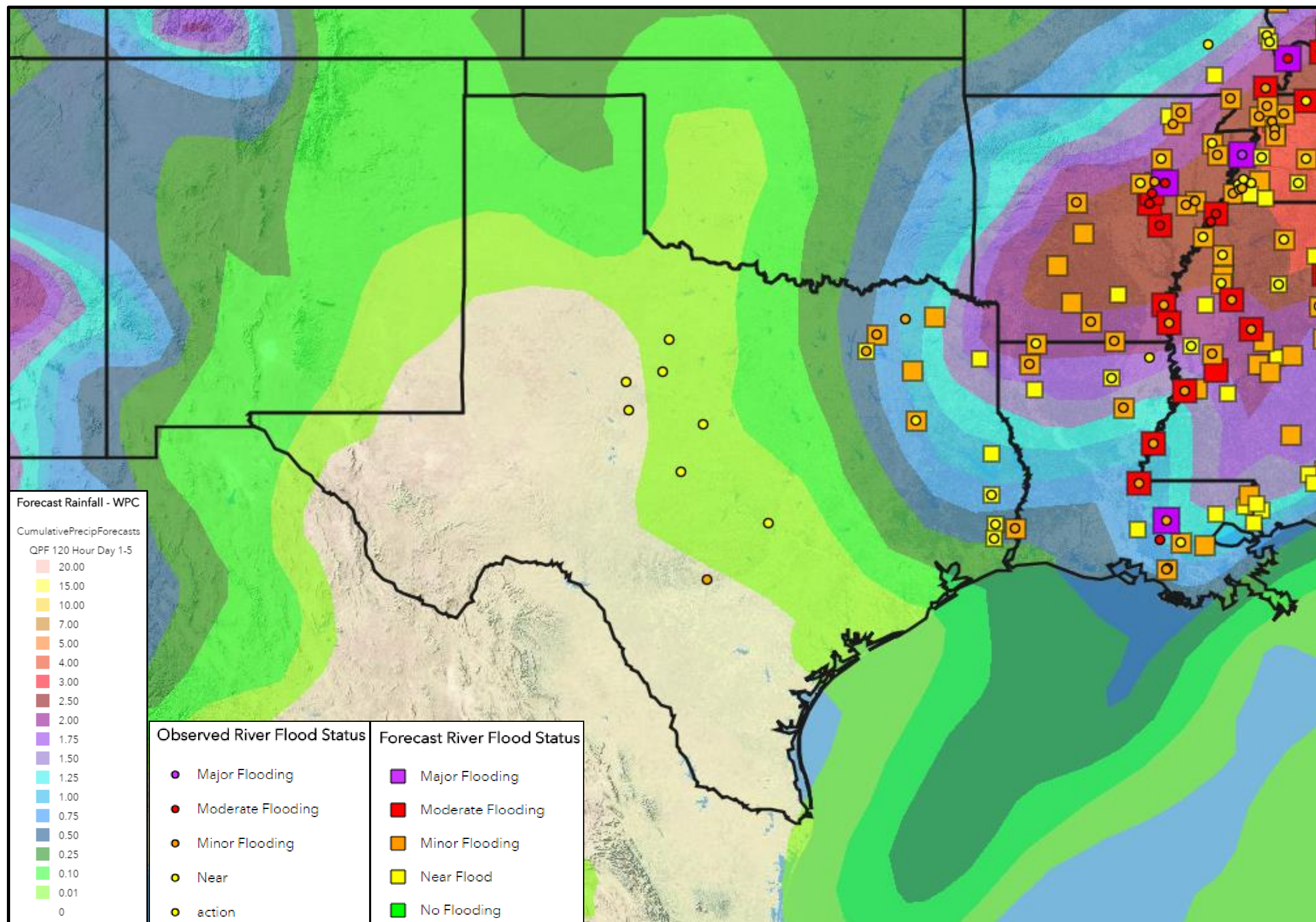


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Moderate flooding continues along the MS River in AR. Osceola (NE AR) expected to reach major flood by Wednesday.**

**Rises on the MS River in LA also expected. Minor to moderate flooding likely.**

**Cache and White Rivers in NE AR at moderate flood stage.**

**Cache River at Patterson is expected to slightly rise again and reach major flood stage by late week, with some state highways flooding.**

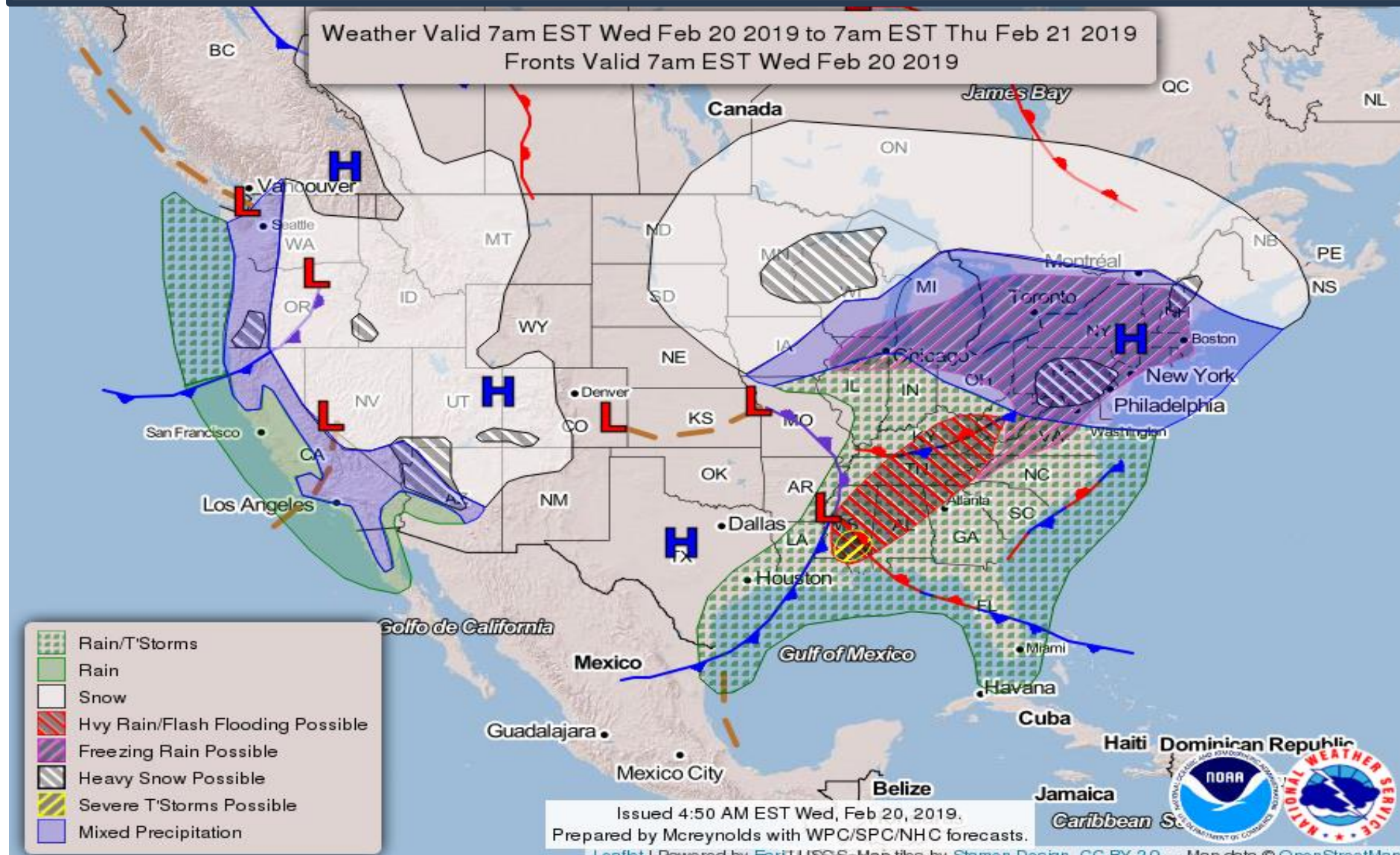


# Today's Weather

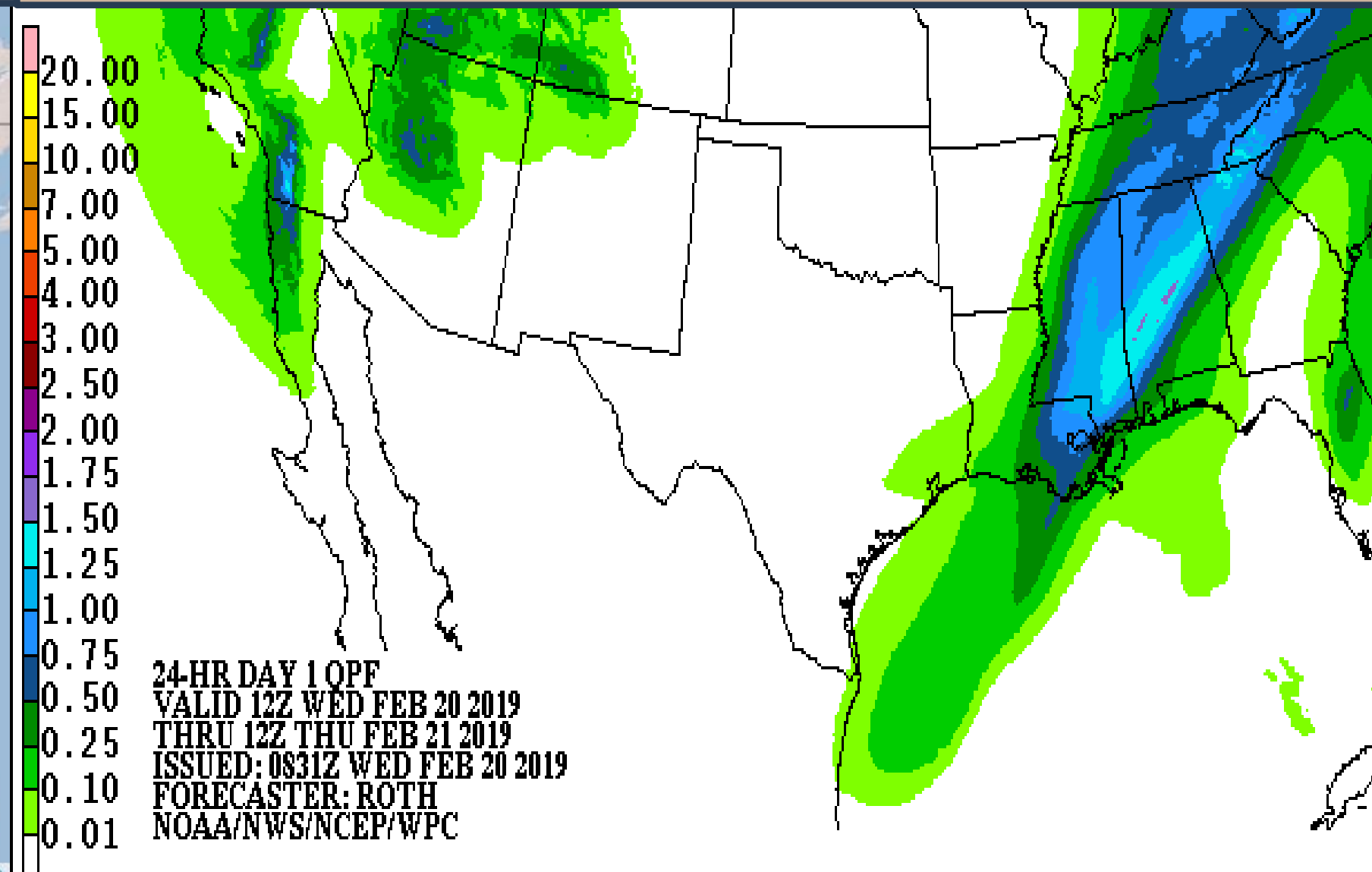


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## Forecast Chart



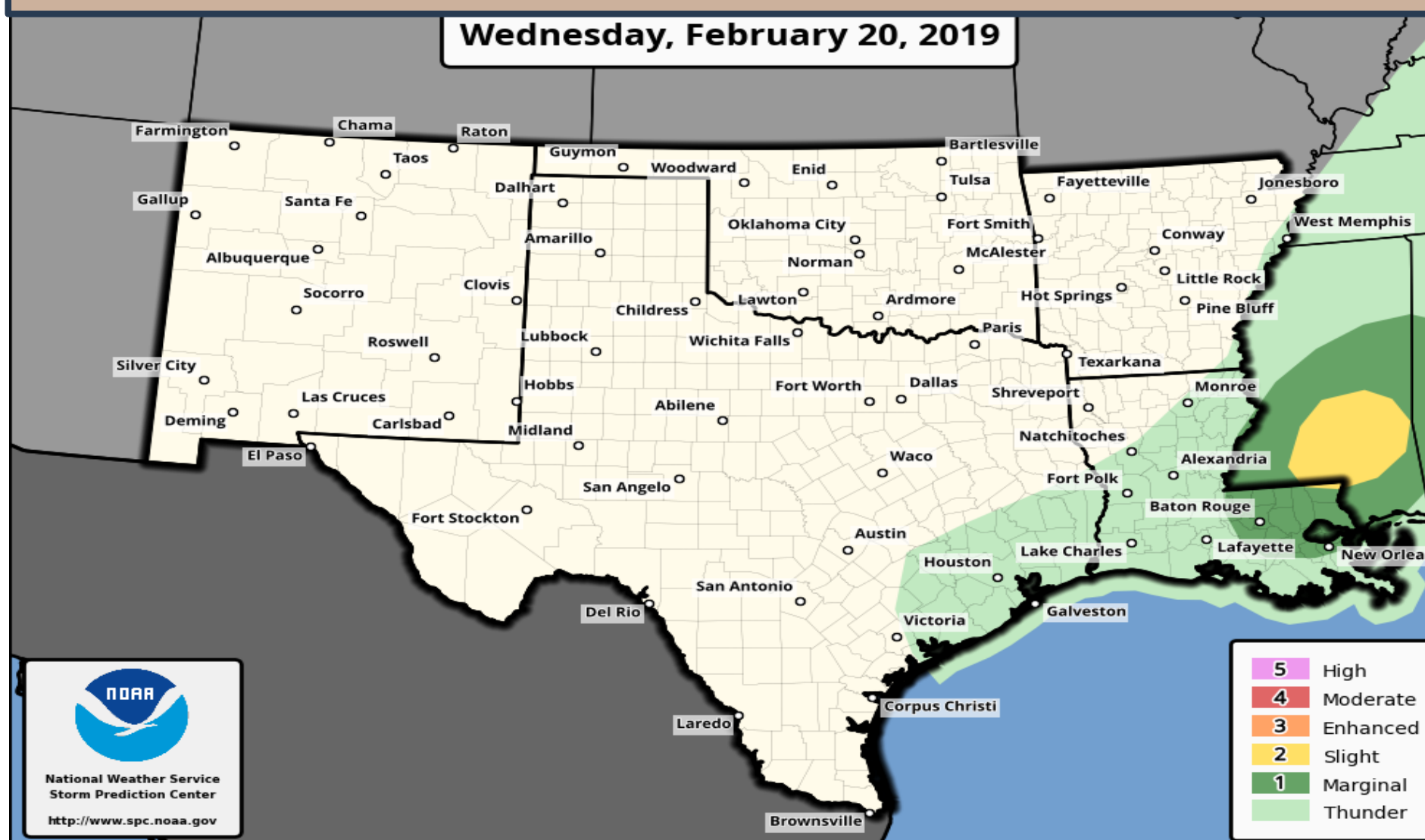
## Forecast Rainfall



Heavy rain/flash flooding  
possible across E LA.

Isolated strong to severe  
thunderstorms for E LA.  
Threat of damaging winds  
and isolated tornado or two

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



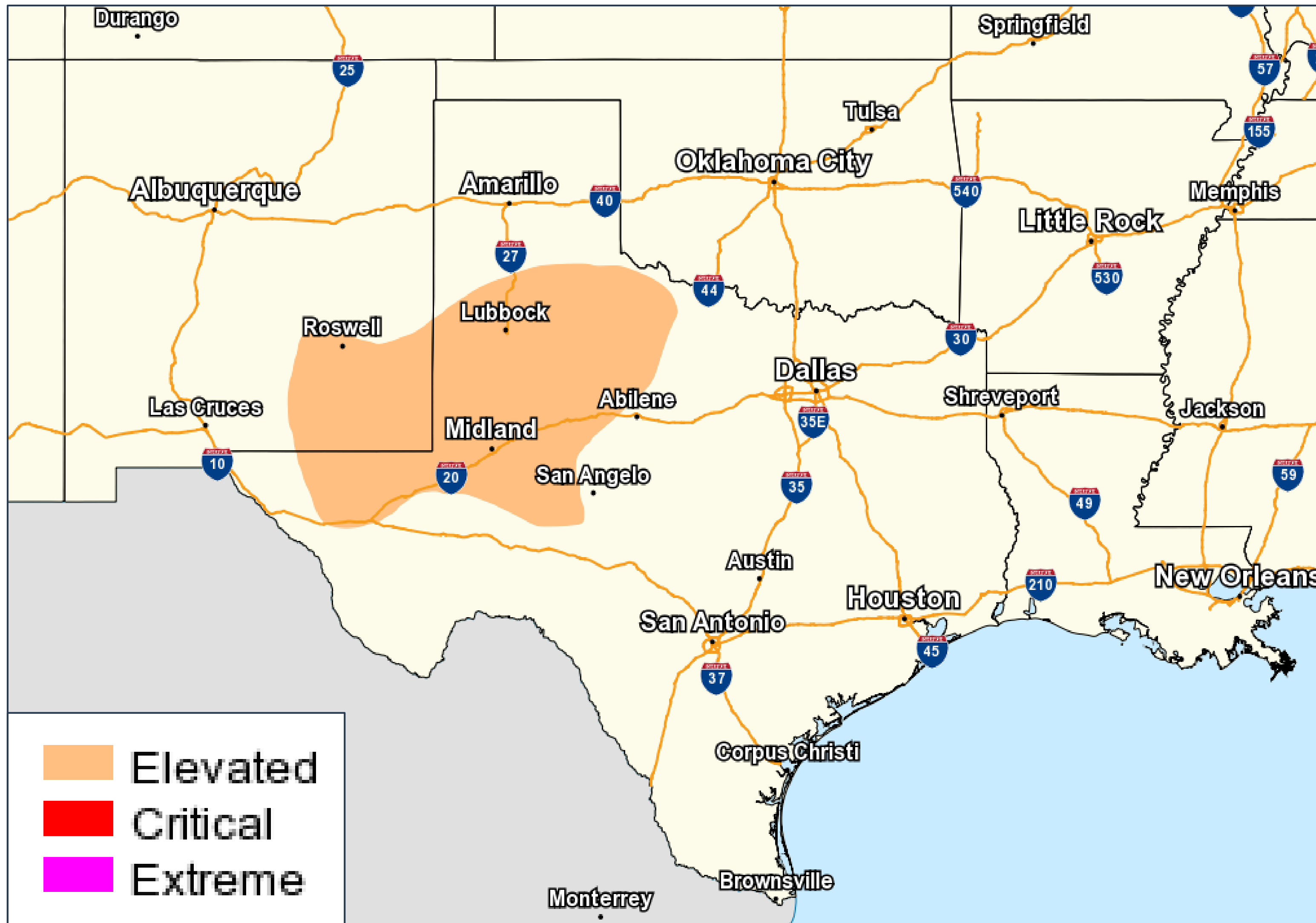
Elevated fire weather  
conditions over NW TX, W  
TX, and SE NM.



# Today's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated fire weather conditions for NW TX, W TX, and SE NM.**

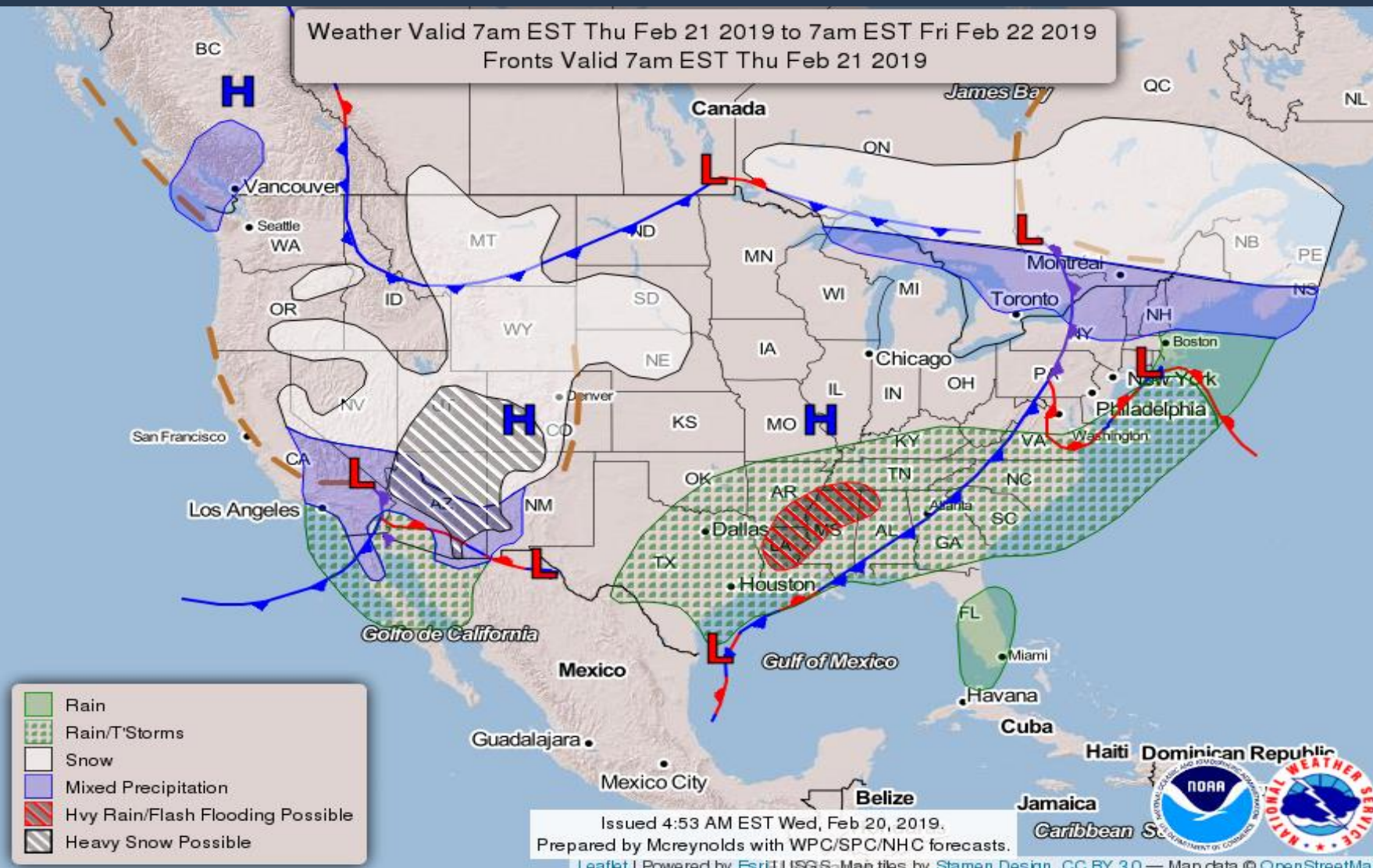


# Tomorrow's Weather

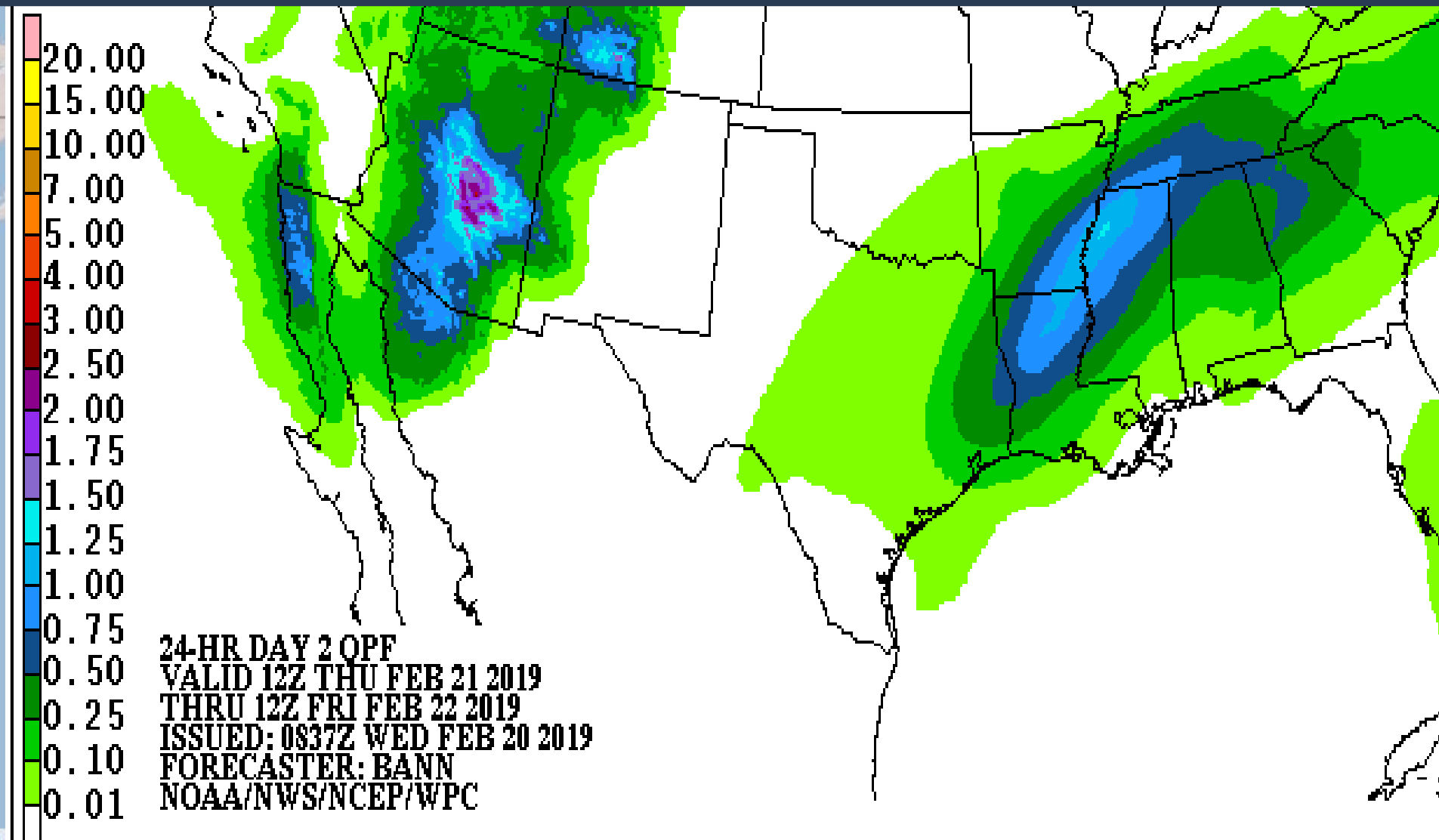


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## Forecast Chart



## Forecast Rainfall

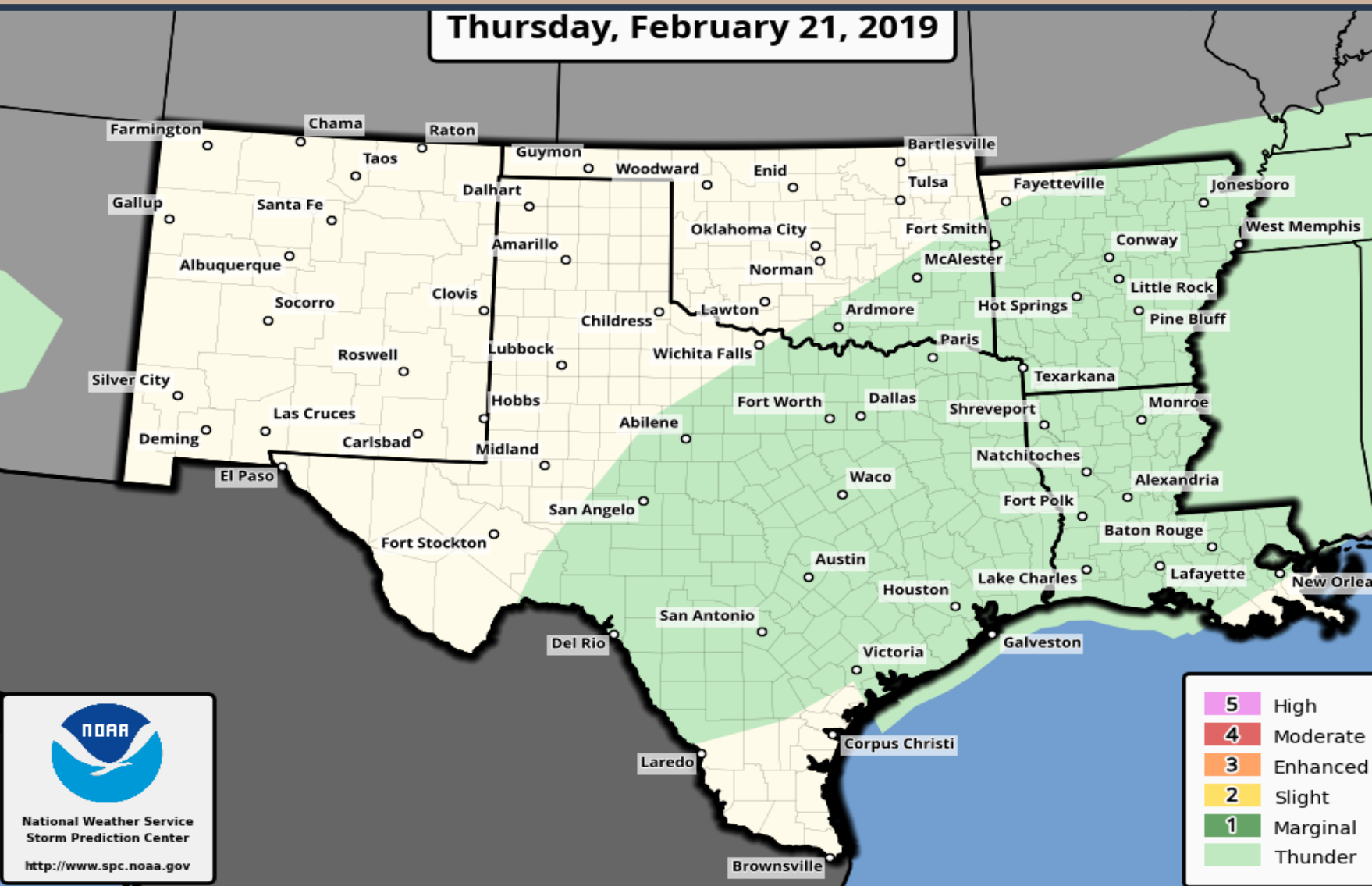


**Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible across SE AR into North and Central LA.**

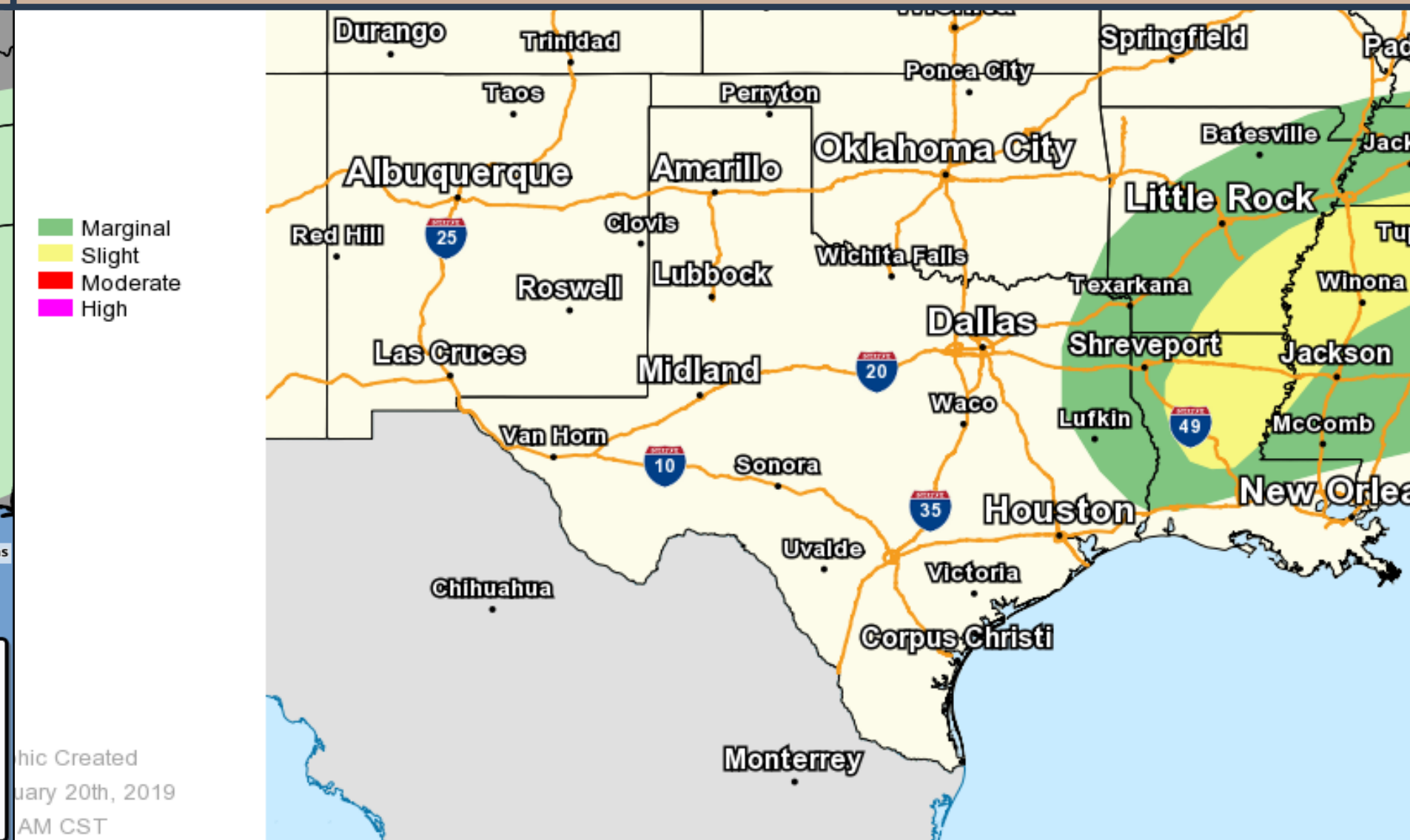
**Snow over western and northern NM.**

## Severe Weather Outlook

Thursday, February 21, 2019



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



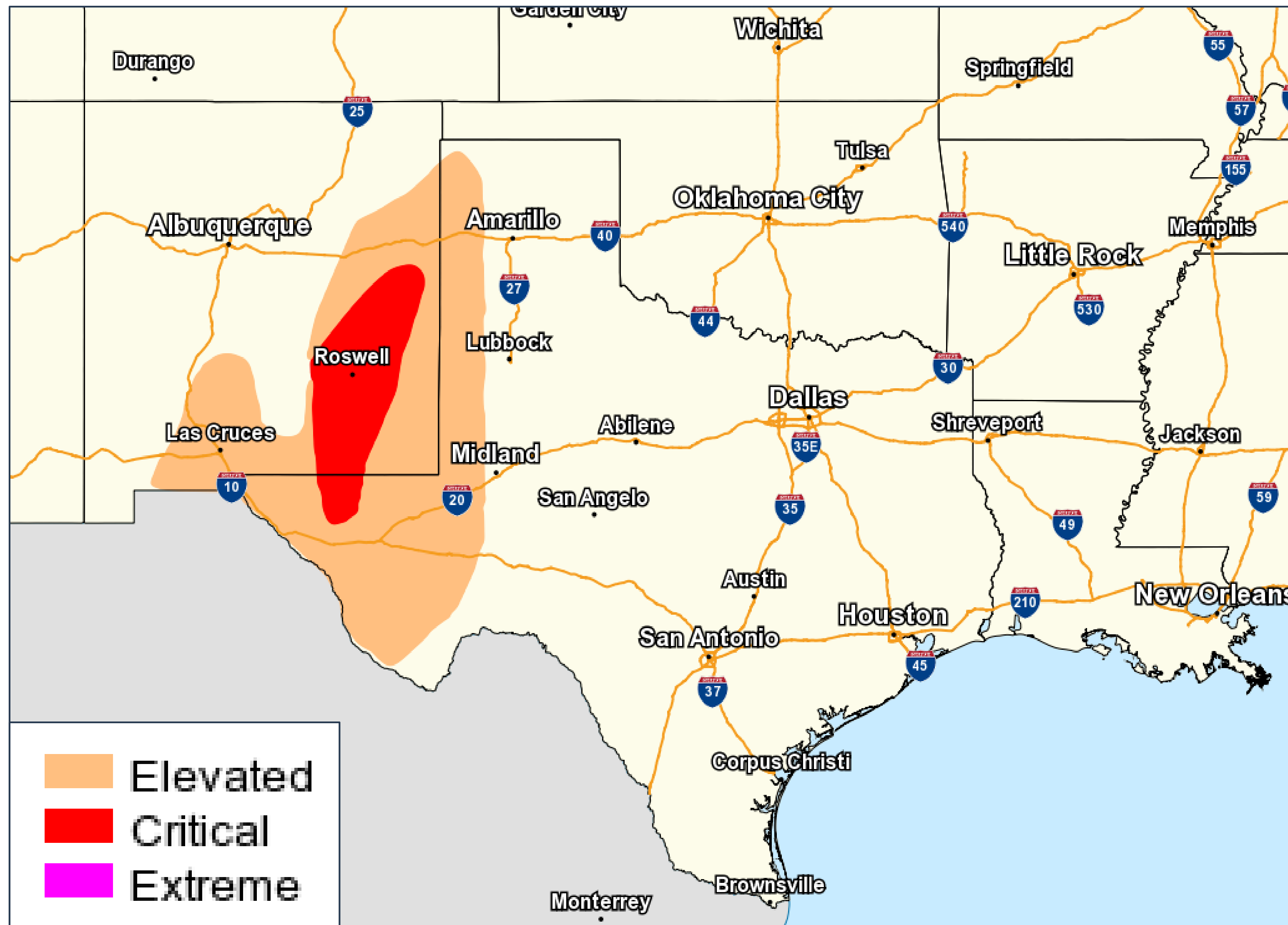
**Elevated to critical fire weather conditions for E NM, W TX, and W TX Panhandle.**



# Tomorrow's Fire Weather Outlook



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**Elevated to critical fire weather conditions for E NM, W TX, and W TX Panhandle.**



# Friday's Weather

## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall



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**Snow with possible travel impacts across N & W NM.**

**Heavy rainfall and isolated flash flooding over SE AR and NE LA**

**Marginal risk of severe storms over SE OK, N & E TX, N LA, and AR**

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Friday, February 22, 2019

Marginal  
Slight  
Moderate  
High

5 High  
4 Moderate  
3 Enhanced  
2 Slight  
1 Marginal  
Thunder

Graphic Created  
February 20th, 2019  
AM CST

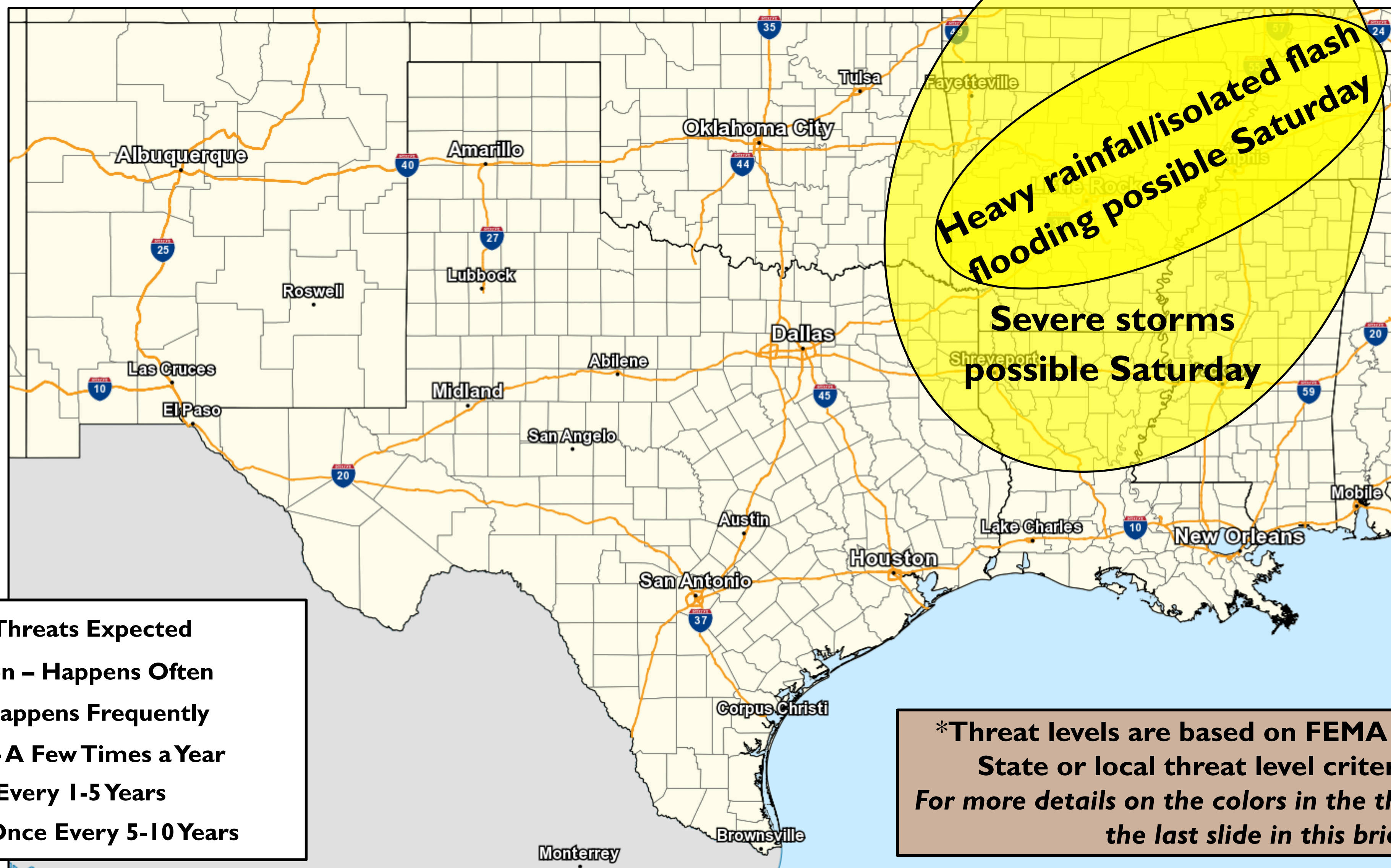


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Saturday – Sunday



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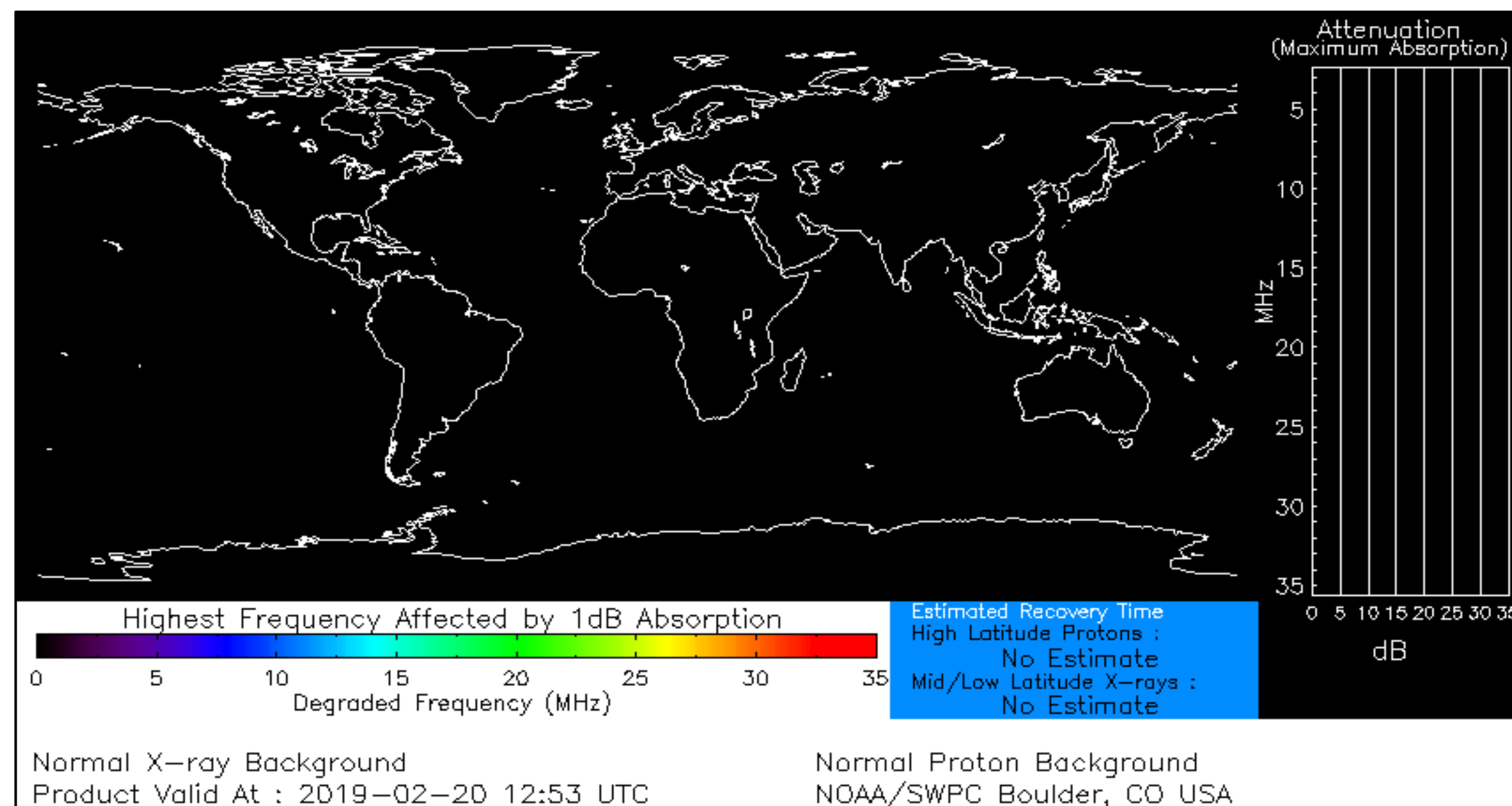


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



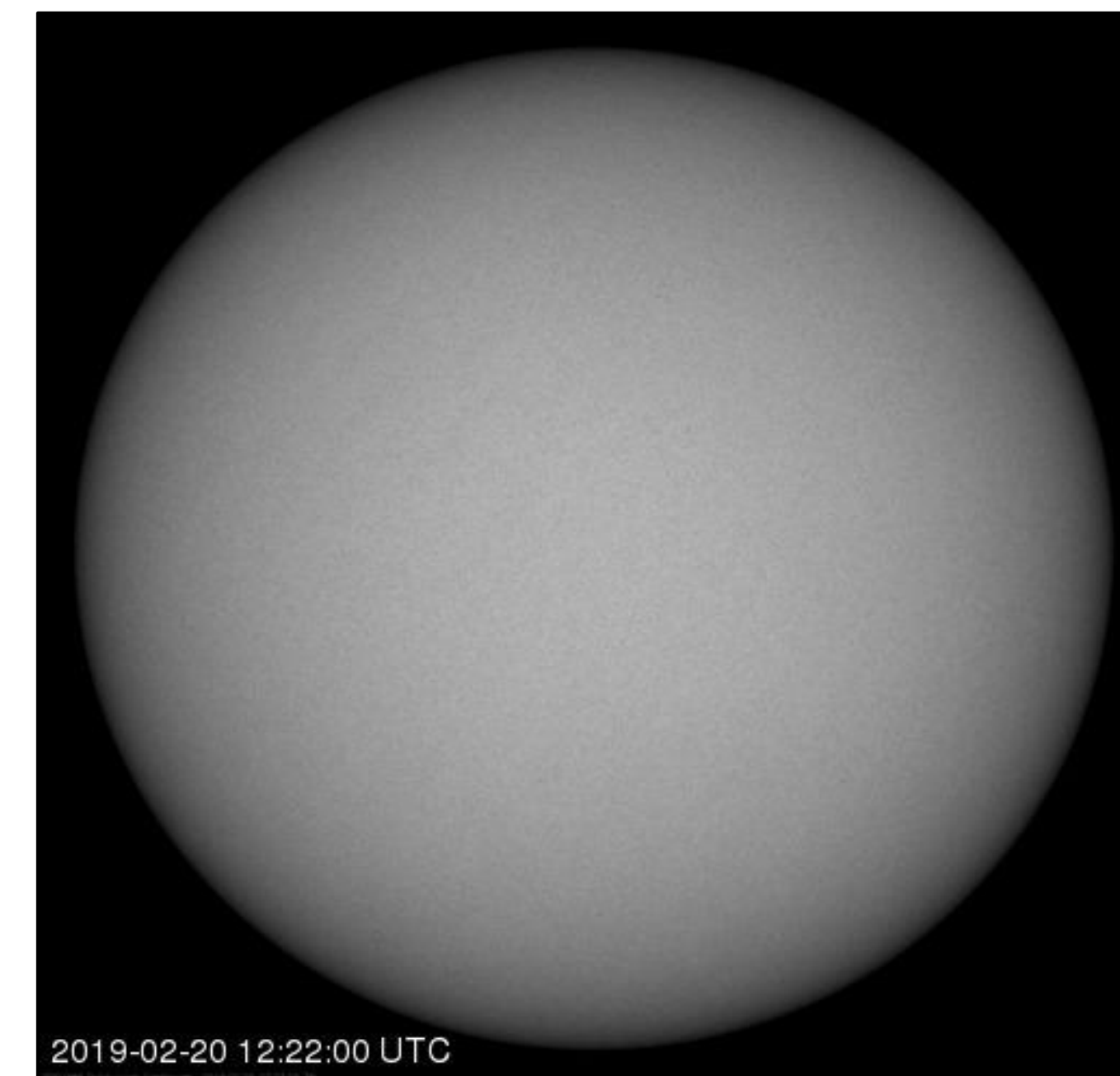
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	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a  
Description of the Space  
Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest  
3-Day Space Weather  
Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**